



# NASIG Newsletter

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## Columns

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### Citations: Required Reading by NASIG Members

Kurt Blythe, Column Editor

[Note: Please report citations for publications by the membership—to include scholarship, reviews, criticism, essays, and any other published works which would benefit the membership to read. You may submit citations on behalf of yourself or other members to Kurt Blythe at [kcblythe@email.unc.edu](mailto:kcblythe@email.unc.edu). Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the author(s) before they are printed. Include contact information with submissions.]

Just in time for spring are the following notices of new scholarship:

**Connie Foster** has published an article entitled, "Fishing for leadership, a service philosophy in library technical services," on pages 603-605 in the December 2010 issue of *College & Research Libraries News* (vol. 71, no. 11).

**Glenda Griffin** has an essay on the book of poetry, *Picture Bride*, in *Masterplots, 4th edition*, edited by Laurence W. Mazzeno (Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2010).

**Matthew A. Person**, who has been working on the Biodiversity Heritage Library since 2007, notes that "the MBLWHOI (Marine Biological Laboratory and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) Library has scanned over four million pages of serials and monographs in this project, and my job has been handling the serials

scanning portion of the workflow." Matthew co-wrote the following:

Suzanne C. Pilsik, et al, "The Biodiversity Heritage Library: Advancing Metadata Practices in a Collaborative Digital Library," *Journal of Library Metadata*, 10 (2010): 136-155. Accessed February 27, 2011  
<https://darchive.mblwhoilibrary.org/handle/1912/4045>.

Abstract: The Biodiversity Heritage Library is an open access digital library of taxonomic literature, forming a single point of access to this collection for use by a worldwide audience of professional taxonomists, as well as "citizen scientists." A successful mass-scanning digitization program, one that creates functional and findable digital objects, requires thoughtful metadata work flow that parallels the work flow of the physical items from shelf to scanner. This article examines the needs of users of taxonomic literature, specifically in relation to the transformation of traditional library material to digital form. It details the issues that arise in determining scanning priorities, avoiding duplication of scanning across the founding twelve natural history and botanical garden library collections, and the problems related to the complexity of serials, monographs, and series. Highlighted are the tools, procedures, and methodology for addressing the details of a mass-scanning operation. Specifically, keeping a steady flow of material, creation of page level metadata, and building services on top of data and metadata that meet

the needs of the targeted communities. The replication of the BHL model across a number of related projects in China, Brazil, and Australia are documented as evidence of the success of the BHL mass-scanning project plan.

With Christopher Cronin and Kelley McGrath, **Jacque Samples** discussed the question of, "Will RDA Mean the Death of MARC?" at the annual conference of the American Library Association, San Diego, CA, January 8, 2011, accessed February 27, 2011, <http://connect.ala.org/node/120043>.

Abstract: The end of the MARC formats has been predicted for years, but no alternative format has risen up to challenge MARC. Will the introduction of the new RDA code precipitate the demise of MARC? Will RDA require the description of content and functionality that cannot be accommodated by the MARC formats, or that can be more easily accommodated by alternative content formats? If so, what format(s) will replace MARC? And if MARC does continue to thrive, how will it have to change to accommodate the new content descriptions in RDA?

**Sarah Sutton** presented a poster of her dissertation research in the Jean Tague-Sutcliffe Doctoral Student Research Poster Competition at the ALISE conference:

"Identifying Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians in the Twenty-First Century Library" (poster presented at the annual conference of ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Educators), San Diego, CA, January 4-7, 2011).

Also, back on October 2, 2010, Sarah, as Student Outreach Committee liaison to Texas Women's University (TWU), participated in the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) Fall Forum. The Fall Forum is sponsored by TWU SLIS and GLISA, the TWU student chapter of the American Library Association, and is an opportunity for learning and networking for students and faculty. This year's forum included social events and workshop sessions on topics such as library resources for distance students and campus resources for doctoral students, a panel discussion among

practitioner librarians regarding career paths in different types of libraries, and a showcase of faculty and student research. Approximately seventy students and faculty attended.

Sarah co-presented a Fall Forum session entitled *Securing a Library Position in a Tight Economy* along with an academic library director, a public library director, and a school librarian. Each panelist presented an overview of the dos and don'ts of applying to and interviewing for a professional position in the type of library represented. The audience was amused (and informed) by the presenters' stories about the most memorable job interviews each presenter had participated in. They particularly enjoyed the breakout sessions at the end of the presentation during which audience members gathered with presenters to ask questions about the job search process. "It was a very pleasant opportunity for me to share my experiences as a serials librarian and to represent NASIG to the students and faculty of Texas Woman's University," Sutton said.

And, **Kristen Blake Wilson** published "Controlling Chaos: Management of Electronic Journal Holdings in an Academic Library Environment," in vol. 36, no. 4 of *Serials Review*, the December 2010 issue, on pages 242-250.

Abstract: The article discusses current practices among academic librarians for managing electronic holdings; explores tools, strategies, and innovations that librarians have used to enhance this process for the benefit of their library users and staffs; and examines the costs and benefits of different management practices.